

**Lieutenant Governor
Katherine L. Davis, Director**
INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
ONE NORTH CAPITOL, SUITE 700
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204
TEL 317 232 8800
Fax 317 232 5123
www.indianacommerce.com

For Immediate Release: Aug. 6, 2004

Media Contact: Angie Dye, Indiana Department of Commerce, 317.232.2464
Barkley Garrett, Commerce Region 2 Office, 574.288.6832

Davis Announces Grants to Train 1,283 Workers at Four Northern Indiana Companies

INDIANAPOLIS — Lt. Gov. Kathy Davis announced today that four Northern Indiana companies will receive training grants valued at \$462,050 from the Indiana Department of Commerce's Skills Enhancement Fund.

"The state of Indiana is helping Hoosier businesses become more competitive in the marketplace," said Davis, who leads the state's economic development efforts as director of Commerce. "These grants give employees immediate access to the latest skills using new and improved equipment. This investment benefits both the business community and our state's workforce."

- **Biomet Inc.**, Warsaw, is the recipient of a \$237,800 grant to train 720 incumbent employees and 108 new employees following the company's investment of \$6 million for equipment and building upgrades. Biomet Inc., founded over 25 years ago, is dedicated to the integration of new technologies and advanced engineering principles to create the highest quality of orthopedic products. Over 340 new products have been introduced over the past four years. Their training will include blue print reading, technical math skills, manufacturing processes, quality processes, computer training, standard operating processes and maintenance processes.
- **Cable Plastics Reclaiming Inc.**, LaPorte, is the recipient of an \$8,750 grant to train 25 new employees following the company's investment of approximately \$5.4 million for equipment and building upgrades. Cable Plastics Reclaiming Inc. was established in 2003. The primary business is recycling cable and wire to produce copper, nylon, Teflon and PVC pellets. Products are sold to brokers and direct customers. Their training will include team building, forklift operations and quality control training.

-more-

- **Plymouth Tube Company**, Winamac, has been awarded an \$80,000 grant to train 174 incumbent employees following the company's \$600,000 investment in new equipment. Plymouth Tube Company began supplying, manufacturing and processing companies with precision tubing in 1924. The company operates a large network of metalworking mills for the manufacture of specialty tubing in aluminum, carbon steel, alloy and stainless steel. Their training will include problem solving, team building and machine operating.
- **Commercial Vehicle Systems Inc.**, Michigan City, has been awarded a \$74,000 grant to train 98 incumbent employees and 30 new employees following the company's \$3.5 million investment in new equipment and building upgrades. Commercial Vehicle Systems Inc. is a leading manufacturer of wipers, controls and safety systems in North America, serving the nation's medium and heavy truck original equipment manufacturers. Their training will include machine operations, machine set up, machine maintenance, blue print reading, gauge reading and problem solving.

The Commerce Department awards Skills Enhancement Fund grants to Indiana companies that undertake capital investment projects. The grants help defray the costs of training new and current employees in basic work skills and company-specific skills necessary to support the project. Companies interested in learning more about the Skills Enhancement Fund or other Commerce programs should contact their regional Commerce office at 800.463.8081, or visit the Web site at www.indianacommerce.com.

###